

# The Old Paths

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## “Response To The Letter About Sin”

Alpha and Omega, Lord and King, Jesus Christ

To all who read this bulletin, let there be no mistake that I am the Redeemer, man’s only hope for an eternity in Heaven (Jn. 14:6). Allah, Buddha, and others are not equal with me, but are far below me in every way. They are dead idols, and I am the True Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ! This letter is a response to the letter in last week’s issue of *The Old Paths*. My child, Jarrod Jacobs didn’t need to be convinced, or persuaded to publish my letter, nor did he have to lay down rules which demanded I use the Bible in my writing. (See last week’s letter – JJ) I AM the word (Jn. 1:1), and know that the gospel record about me has the power to save (Rom. 1:16), and will lead everyone to Heaven. Therefore, in this writing, I will freely and openly cite Scripture references because I want my gospel published far and wide.

As I begin, let me assure all that Mr. “Zebub” as he wanted to be called, is no man’s friend! Though he portrays himself as man’s friend, even “an angel of light” at times (II Cor. 11:14), he is really mankind’s enemy! He is the Devil (Matt. 4:1, 5, 8, 11; Jas. 4:7; etc.), Satan (I Chron. 21:1; Job 1:6-9; etc.), the “Old Serpent” (Rev. 12:9, 20:2), and that “roaring lion” who is hunting for precious souls to devour (I Pet. 5:8). He is subtle (Gen. 3:1; II Cor. 11:3), and his subtlety is ap-

parent from the very by-line of his article last week. I know that some readers were confused as to “who” wrote the article and why. Please understand, THAT was his purpose! He succeeded in deceiving some before his article even began! In contrast, I deceive no one (I Pet. 2:21; Jn. 1:17). I have never told a lie (Heb. 6:18; Titus 1:2). Satan tries his best to cheat, to lie, and through various temptations, to lead souls away from me (I Jn. 2:15-17). He has been active in this work since the beginning of man, and is quite good at his work (Gen. 3:1-6; Jn. 8:44).

Though Satan is efficient in this work, and quite successful at times, never forget that I possess all authority in heaven and earth, not him (Matt. 28:18; Eph. 1:20-23). Though he is called “the prince of the world” and “the prince of the power of the air” (Jn. 12:41, 14:30, 16:11; Eph. 2:2), I am still more powerful than him, and will one day cast him, his angels, and all his earthly followers into Hell (Matt. 25:41-46; II Thess. 1:6-9; Rev. 21:8). Therefore, it is best for all to listen to me and obey while there is still an opportunity (Heb. 2:1-3). One day, life for you will end, and then what will be the result if you die without me (Matt. 16:26, 6:19-21)? Do not listen to Satan, listen to me!

In the beginning of his letter, Satan said that he has been to Owensboro quite often. This is true, but remember, so have I (Prov. 15:3)!! There have been many Christians living in Owensboro over

the years, and there are many still in town today! I look among the people and see many who have submitted their lives to my will, and followed my plan for salvation (Acts 2:22-38; Mk. 16:16; Acts 8:35-39; I Pet. 3:21; etc.). Not only have I seen this, but I have also observed good fathers and mothers teaching their children my word, and leading them to me, just like they are supposed to (Eph. 6:4; Tit. 2:3-5; Prov. 22:6). I walk among the churches (Rev. 2:1), and so am among the Southside congregation weekly. I see what is happening there, and know of your works. However, I have sometimes wondered if all the folks there recognize me like they should?

As I peruse his letter, and see Satan gloating over the fact that he has “brought down kings, paupers, preachers, prophets, husbands and wives ...” I am both angry at his work and sad. I am angry and sad because I know those folks, and wish they would have chosen me over Satan! You see, just as night is opposite to day, so also I, “the light” (Jn. 1:4-5, 9-10, 8:12; Col. 1:12) am the opposite of Satan and his kingdom of darkness (Col. 1:13)! I do not “bring down” men, I lift them up! Satan’s work results in lost and dejected souls, but my work results in souls being accepted of me and saved (Lk. 19:10; Matt. 26:28; Eph. 1:6-7)!

Yet, even when a Christian yields to temptation and sins, this one can still be forgiven (I Jn. 2:1)! I still provide forgiveness and redemption for those who will repent! An example of this fact is seen when Simon sinned against me and was rightly told by Peter that he needed to repent and pray for forgiveness (Acts 8:22-24). Satan fights against my will and causes men to feel so guilty that they think they can never be forgiven again. This is not true! I am ready

and willing to forgive when my children repent! My beloved John was inspired to write my will thusly: *"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness"* (I Jn. 1:7). Later he wrote, *"My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous: And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world"* (I Jn. 2:1-2). Why don't my children believe me? They do not have to be "brought down" and destroyed spiritually! From Old Testament times, my children have been encouraged and exhorted to repent and obey (Ezek. 18:31-32). Sadly, even at this period in earth's history, I know those who have become so dejected that they listened to Satan rather than me, and it resulted in them losing their souls in eternity. Contrary to Satan, who said he loves such situations, it truly hurts me! I died for all mankind (Matt. 20:28; Heb. 2:9b), and so I know the true meaning of love (Jn. 15:13). Satan only knows hate, and how to manipulate and deceive people to do his will. Yes, Satan has "brought down" many in this world, and all the while, I am standing with open arms, waiting to lift them up (Jas. 4:10, 5:19-20)!

Again, when Satan gloats over the effects of sin upon men and women, he is gloating over a true thing, but it is something that does not have to be! The effects of truth and righteousness upon people are as "contagious" as sin is (Matt. 5:16; I Pet. 2:12). I offer men and women a better way, a way that leads to life eternal (Matt. 7:13-14, 25:34, 40, 46). When folks do this, it not only does their soul good, but

helps rescue other souls from Satan's grasp! So long as this earth stands, this relationship will be available to all. I need more and more workers to go out into the field (world) and gather this harvest before it is too late (Jn. 4:35). I am in need of workers, but who will answer my call for laborers? Who will answer my call and command to *"Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light"* (Matt. 11:28-30)? Many have already answered me in the past in Owensboro, but I need more, today!

Satan admits that he has studied humans for many years and knows what it takes to tempt them and lead them into sin. This is right (I Jn. 2:15-17). He is the enemy of man, my creation. Even the name "Satan" means, *"an accuser, an opponent."* Truly, he is an accuser of mankind (Zech. 3:1-5; Rev. 12:10). He has many tools at his disposal, but what Satan hates to recognize is that he cannot force anyone to sin! He is a deceiver, and likes to leave people with the impression that they cannot resist him. The truth is that man is tempted *"when he is drawn away of his own lust and enticed"* (Jas. 1:14). This means that while Satan is powerful, and can use various temptations to lure men away from

me, he still cannot overpower the will of any man! Each person can resist Satan and follow me if they will do it (Jas. 4:7). My dearly beloved, I have made a way by which everyone can escape sin if they will simply take advantage of my way (I Cor. 10:13). The question is not "if" there is such a way, the question is "who" will accept? You see, the way one walks to escape sin is not always the easiest path. However, it leads to the best place, a home in Heaven! This is why I said that the *"strait"* and *"narrow"* way is the way to life, and not the *"broad way"* (Matt. 7:13-14)! Yes, *"few"* find this way because *"few"* are looking! My dear ones, where are you looking? This will determine what direction you are walking, whether toward life or death!

Satan is a powerful being, but he is not omnipotent! Satan is clever and sly, but at the same time, can only operate within certain parameters to lead your soul from me (I Jn. 2:15-17). No one will be ignorant of Satan's devices when he listens to me (II Cor. 2:11)! Therefore, take these words to heart and remember that when you turn to me, you will have blessings on earth as a Christian (Eph. 1:3), as well as a promise of a home in Heaven for an eternity! Satan could never make such a promise (II Pet. 2:19), but I can! Repent, and obey my gospel (Acts 2:38)!

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Come and meet with the church at Southside.

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Sunday Evening Worship \_\_\_\_\_ 6:00 p.m.

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*"Thus saith the LORD, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls." (Jer. 6:16)*